



Groton & Conde UMC

# Newsletter

September 2023

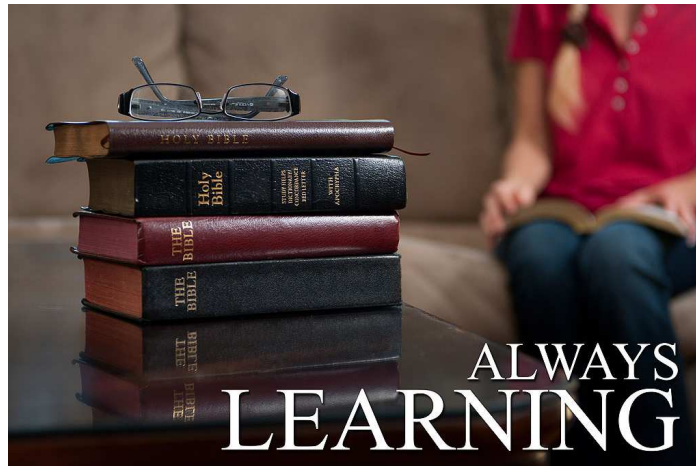
906 N 1st St, Groton, SD 57445

## ...Pastor Rob's Ponderings

School is back in session. Blurry-eyed kids with loaded backpacks are roaming the streets and getting off buses. Parents, at least for a few hours, get some peace and quiet in the house. I always get a kick out of the blank stares and confused looks when I ask kids, "So what did you learn in your first week of school?" It's almost as if I caught them asking themselves, "You mean I was supposed to learn something at school?"

One of the ways I keep learning is using Bible Gateway's "Verse of the Day" (You can get it delivered to your email each day for free. Sign up at [www.biblegateway.com/newsletters/](http://www.biblegateway.com/newsletters/)). Each morning I receive an email with a random bible verse. Sometimes, they are familiar. On the day I'm writing this, the verse was Romans 12:4-5 which is Paul's description of the church as having many parts but one body. Since we recently went through Romans in Sunday morning worship, I passed over the verse for the day.

On the other hand, with school starting this week, yesterday's "Verse of the Day" still has me thinking. Psalm 119:165 states, "Those who love your instruction have great peace and do not stumble." Alt-



hough it sounds like something found in scripture, I don't recognize it as a "memory verse" from Sunday School or something I heard preached about. But it does make sense for this time of year doesn't it?

And it has me thinking. Someone asked the question on Facebook this week if we still knew the name of our first-grade teacher. I still remember Mrs. Jorgenson. I remember an older lady but not close to retirement who taught me about parts of grammar like "and," "the," "this." I still use those parts of grammar, hopefully in appropriate ways, and I'm glad I can communicate well. I also was asked which books I've been reading recently. I reported I just finished "Why the Jews," a book on anti-Semitism, and "Feherty," a

biography of the golf personality David Feherty, and I'm reading "The Windsors's at War," a history of the English royal family leading up to and during World War II.

What I've realized by the prodding of this verse from the Psalms is that "instruction" and "learning" never end. I keep learning more from scripture as I open up the Word each week. I hope you are doing the same.

My 40<sup>th</sup> high school reunion is coming up in September. It's hard to believe it's been 40 years since my last day of high school but I'm glad it's never been my last day of learning.

I hope you join us in church as we learn together.

See you in church!



Pastor Rob  
In Office  
Tuesday &  
Wednesday  
Mornings

Monday  
Day Off



## Groton Rally Sunday

There will be an **all church potluck dinner on September 10th to welcome Pastor Rob** and to celebrate the kick off to Sunday School with Rally Sunday. The family committee and PPR will provide the hot dishes and are asking the congregation to fill in with salads, rolls, desserts etc. Please plan to attend.

Groton Sunday school will start once again on **September 10** at **9:30 a.m.** with Rally Sunday! We will have a carnival, prizes, and lots of fun! All kids ages 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome! After church services, we will have a potluck lunch with main dish provided. Bring a side dish or dessert and join us! Come join the fun!



## Confirmation Update

**CONFIRMATION:** Will start in early January (with a parents meeting to review materials and set day and time for classes happening sometime in December). Confirmation Sunday will be Sunday prior to Palm Sunday.

**Conde MISSION STATEMENT**  
 "The Conde United Methodist Church is seeking to satisfy the spiritual and physical needs of all."



The Tuesday AM Bible Study that meets each week at 10 am will be starting a new study on "Making Sense of the Bible" by Adam Hamilton on Sept 5th. This is a 6 week study and then we will be taking a short break before we begin a Christmas Study. Please come and join our group as we discuss many Biblical Issues and Grow our Faith. Any questions, call Kay Daly 605-397-8389

### Church Information

Pastor Rob Moorlach  
 Office Phone 605-397-8270  
 Parsonage Phone 605-397-4538  
 Pastor Email: [pastorrob@nvc.net](mailto:pastorrob@nvc.net)  
 Secretary Email: [grotonumc@nvc.net](mailto:grotonumc@nvc.net)  
 Website: [www.grotonumc.org](http://www.grotonumc.org)  
 Facebook: [facebook.com/grotonsdumc/](https://www.facebook.com/grotonsdumc/)  
 906 N 1st St Groton, SD 57445



**October 31st**  
**5:30 - 7 pm**



## Groton VBS 2023

Our VBS “Pets Unleashed” was a great success! We had 39 kids in attendance. The kids learned that *Jesus Cares for Us!* A special thank you to those who helped with VBS: Pastor Rob, Meri Erickson, Megan Erickson, Sydney Kurtz, Carna Pray, Mendy Jones, Melissa Gilbert, Emma Schinkel, Lane Tietz, Randy Padfield, Val Baker, Casey Johnson, and John Erickson. We would also like to thank all of you who donated to VBS to make it a success! The kids had a great time and it is all very appreciated.





## Rose Family Welcomes Twins

Keller Ellis Rose was born July 26th at 7 lbs 8 oz and 20 inches long 3 minutes after his older sister; Willow Maris Rose born at 6 lbs 12 oz and 20 inches long. Welcomed by parents Karen & Ian and siblings: Rylie, Graham, Nolan, Beckett, and Ava.



# Welcome

## Johnson family welcomes Whitley Morgan



Born on June 22nd at 1:24 pm. She was 8 lbs 3 ozs and 21 inches long. She joins parents, Matt and Casey. Siblings are Bentley, Paisley, Faith, and Luke. Congratulations!



## Groton Family Committee - October

### Erin & Damian Bahr

Jackson & London

### Sabrina & Joey Padfield

Andrea & Scott Eisenbiesz

Megan & Seth Erickson

Cheryl Hanson

Mendy & Jim Jones, Marlee

Curtis Krueger

JoAnn & Richard Krueger

Laurie & AM Mitchell

Diann & Brad Morehouse

Joann & Mike Nehls

Chuck Padfield

Pam & Roger Rix

### Honorary Members

- Doris Strom
- Ruby Luce

### October Responsibilities

- Check kitchen supplies for the month
- Check & clean oven and fridge as necessary
- Coffee hour workers (make coffee, provide cookies, launder

towels, and remove trash)

- 2 Ushers for each Sunday
- Straighten the Sanctuary Pews
- Change the banners as needed as per schedule in back of Family Committee Book
- Maintain the Altar flower arrangements
- Potluck 2nd Sunday - give church secretary details for announcements
- Serve at Avantara Nursing Center - 4th Sunday
- Change decorations on tables in fellowship hall with the seasons
- 5th Sunday may buy donuts and give bill to church treasurer
- Check and make sure the Christmas Eve candles are okay for the service early in the month in case new ones need to be ordered.
- Check and make sure the Advent Wreath Candles are okay in case they need to be ordered.

October 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

We're  
thankful  
for you!



## Robert "Jack" Oliver

Died July 2, 2023

Survived by his wife,  
Maggie Oliver  
1907 S Lawson St  
Aberdeen, SD 57401



## Our Church Celebrations...

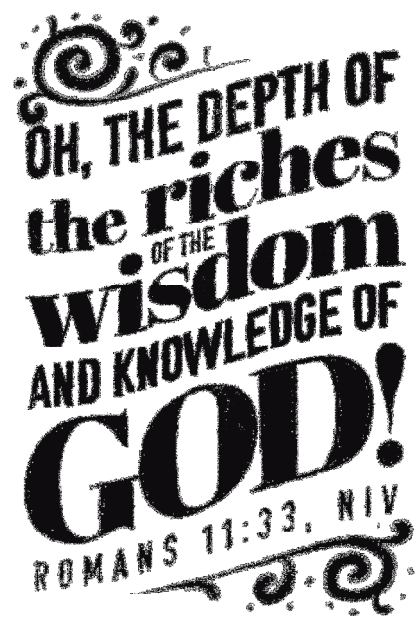
### Groton

- Sept 2 Kylie Hawkins
- Sept 6 Justin Olson  
Perryn Dobbins  
Laurie & AM Mitchell
- Sept 7 Alana White
- Sept 8 Laurel & Monte McNickle
- Sept 9 Clint & Audrey Jacobson
- Sept 10 Bryce Hanson
- Sept 11 Audrey Jacobson
- Sept 12 Cliff Pray  
Ryder Daly
- Sept 13 Karsten Hinman  
Richard Krueger
- Sept 14 Rick & Sarah Hofer
- Sept 15 Karen Rose  
Mason Madsen
- Sept 16 Camille Sippel
- Sept 17 Jackson Strom  
Kyler Ell
- Sept 19 Jace Hofer  
Diann Morehouse
- Sept 20 Michael & Monica McCranie
- Sept 22 Madison McNickle
- Sept 23 Carolyn Snyder

- Sep 24 Jesse Overacker  
Turner Webb
- Sep 25 Joey Padfield  
Sabrina Padfield
- Sep 26 Alan Strom  
Alejandra Heitmann

### Conde

- Sept 7 Richard Worlie
- Sept 13 Shane Bruckner
- Sep 29 Bud & Julie Bruckner



## Blessed With Work

In the movie *Return to Me*, Grace works for her grandfather, Marty, in his restaurant, and the two live upstairs. After closing time one night, Grace looks through the apartment window and sees Marty cleaning tables. She yells down to ask if he wants help, and he replies, “No, dear, that’s okay. I’m blessed with work.”

Here’s a man well past retirement

age laboring extra hours after his staff has clocked out. Marty simply continues to delight in his work, despite the late hour.

Although this snippet had little to do with the movie’s plot, I’ve always remembered Marty’s words. But I don’t think I’ve ever claimed to be “blessed with work.” By contrast, I often sigh as I’m dealing with messes or long to-do

lists. I can get so caught up in tasks that I overlook the incredible people around me. I miss out on the blessing — the joy — of work.

Ecclesiastes 5:19 (NLT) says, “To enjoy your work ... is indeed a gift from God.” In what ways are you “blessed with work”? —Janna Firestone



# Groton Ad Council

ADMINISTRATIVE Council Meeting Groton United Methodist Church 7-19-2023

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, AM Mitchell. Those in attendance were AM Mitchell, Pastor Rob Moorlach, Carna Atherton-Pray, Jeanne Wanous, and Anita Lowary. Past Rob led the group in prayer prior to the business meeting.

Agenda: The agenda was approved on a motion by Anita Lowary. Previous Minutes: The previous minutes were approved on a motion by Carna Atherton-Pray.

**Committee Reports:**

Membership Committee: Anita will be calling a meeting soon.

Trustees: Committee chair, Tyke Nyberg, was not present, so Pastor Rob gave an update on the tree trimming & removal project. Tyler Sperry has removed the tree in front of the church, a tree near the parsonage, and has trimmed grove trees, including stump removal for a total of \$2200. Tyler noticed five or six dead or diseased trees in the grove and stated he could remove those trees & stumps for an additional \$500. On a motion by Anita Lowary & 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carna Atherton-Pray, the council voted to remove those additional trees. A por-

tion of the bill will be paid from the Parsonage fund.

Treasurer's Report & Finance: The report was reviewed, and it was noted that we are in need of more member donations.

Pastor Parish: A meeting will be set for after the Brown County Fair.

Bills: None

Administrative Report:

Pastor Rob reported that he has been making visits to members of the congregation. He has also had a meeting with the new Emmanuel Lutheran pastor.

**Old Business:**

Outside Church Sign: The sign has been updated and the bill will be submitted.

CPR Classes and AED. Carna showed the new AED device to the Council. The place to mount it in the church is still undetermined. She is working to establish training and notes there will be a minimum number of people required to attend in order to hold the training class.

Pastor Stained Glass: Anita is working on a person to update the names as well as finding another glass to carry on the listing of pastor's who have served the Groton UMC.

Sound System: A bid of \$3,604.47

(including a \$500 credit for equipment trade-in) from Pauer Sound, LLC in Aberdeen was reviewed and discussed. On a motion by Anita Lowary and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carna Atherton-Pray the board agreed to move forward with Pauer Sound's installation, labor, & training bid. Payment will be made using Memorial Funds and requesting donations from the congregation.

**New Business:**

August Ad Council Meeting: The board agreed to cancel the August meeting due to the Brown County Fair happening during the same time frame as our regularly scheduled meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.  
Secretary, Jeanne Wanous

Groton Stewardship Report June 2023	
Average Wkly Giving	\$1,217
Needed Wkly for Church Mission	\$2,393
Average Weekly Attendance Sunday	39
Total Building Fund Donations for Repairs	\$5





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# September *Our Church Happenings...*

September 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## **Sept 10 Groton Rally Sunday**

- ◆ Sunday School Carnival at 9:30 am
- ◆ Coffee Hour at 9:30 am
- ◆ Worship at 10:30 am
- ◆ Welcome Pastor Rob Today
- ◆ Potluck at 11:30 am

Sept 20 Groton Ad Council 7 pm

Sept 21 Newsletter Items Due